

OREGON CROP WEATHER



OREGON
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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Weather: Colder weather arrived in a big way last week, with low temperatures falling in the teens and in single digits in many parts of Eastern Oregon. The freezing overnight temperatures have been accompanied by hard frosts. Average temperatures for the week fell in the thirties and forties. Areas in the Willamette Valley and along the coast received some significant precipitation, but elsewhere it has remained essentially dry. Union County received some light snowfall with no accumulation. Heavy winds in Sherman County helped create some hazardous dust storms.

Field Crops: Fall field work was winding down as winter weather began. In Harney County, some fall planting was on going. Sugarbeet and field corn harvests continued and winter wheat was being "dusted-in" in Malheur County. In Sherman County winter wheat planting continued with a sizable amount of acres remaining to be planted. Early seeded acres emerged but showed patchiness as an impact of drought. Winter wheat planting was winding down in Union County. Cold weather might have delayed some final fall planting of mint starts until temperatures rise some. In the Willamette Valley most fall grains have been seeded and have emerged. Planting of perennial ryegrass seed and clovers seed was winding down in Marion County. Fertilizers and herbicide applications were being made as weather permitted.

Vegetables: Frost on October 31 effectively ended the vegetable season across the State. Halloween saw the closing of roadside stands and truck gardens. There were some salad greens still available in the Willamette Valley.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries have been busy while facing record high temperatures and record low temperatures all within the same week. Shipments to out of State locations still continued. Greenhouses working on winter plants along with Christmas plants. The Christmas tree harvest has started.

Fruit and Nuts: Hazelnut, wine grape, and late season apple harvests were near completion Statewide. Cranberry harvest continued on the southern coast. Fall clean-up spraying was nearly finished.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Livestock condition continued to be good. Calves were being shipped and some feeding of cows started where pastures were inadequate or in some cases, nonexistent. Pastures made improvements in some localities, although the cold weather may put new growth on hold.

Crop Progress Week Ending 11/2/03

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
Winter wheat planted (%)	83	76	78	87
Winter wheat emerged (%)	49	40	26	53
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.1	6.9	—	—

Soil Moisture Week Ending 11/2/03

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	33	48	19	—
Subsoil (%)	48	38	14	—

Crop Condition Week Ending 11/2/03

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat (%)	—	30	54	15	1
Range & Pasture (%)	12	34	45	9	—

WESTERN OREGON

CLACKAMAS: Most fall grains have been seeded and have emerged. Fruit harvest is essentially completed. A few hazelnuts and walnuts remain to be harvested. Frost on October 31 nipped the summer vegetables, such as tomatoes and squash. Salad greens are still available. Nurseries are actively marketing for the fall trade. Livestock remain in good condition, while pastures make some improvement. The cold weather that arrived this week will surely slow the growth down again.

COOS\CURRY: Cranberry harvest continued in both counties. Precipitation is needed to replenish water supplies. October was very dry. Cranberry fields without sprinkler protection may have suffered scald damage on October 26 due to high temperatures and low humidity. At the Bandon AgriMet weather station on October 26, maximum cranberry crop-level temperature was 90.8 degrees F, and the minimum relative humidity was 18.7 percent. Higher temperatures and lower humidities could have occurred at some cranberry farms. Also, cranberry frost events occurred on October 31 and November 1. Unsheltered crop-level minimum temperatures were about 24 degrees F on both of those dates at Bandon AgriMet. Weather became cooler on Halloween and some light precipitation occurred over the weekend. However, more rain is needed for cranberry harvest. At Brookings-Harbor AgriMet, average 6 inch soil temperatures went from 70.5 degrees F early in the week to 58.3 degrees F by November 1.

JACKSON: Fall orchard sprays applied. All wine grapes harvested. Orchardists were concerned about possible low temperatures in the teens on October 31. Many geared up to do some type of freeze protection after last year's damage in October.

JOSEPHINE: Closing up truck garden outlets now. Freezing temperatures with hard killing frosts have curtailed sales. Halloween usually calls an end to sales for them. Nursery sales are slowing down. Yard cleanup is still going on. Animals look good and pastures are looking better with the cooler temperatures. Fire season is still in effect, although they have halted some restrictions with some equipment. Measurable precipitation yesterday evening with cooler temperatures and snow in the hills.

LANE: Some late apples, but the freeze and weather damaged any fruit left on the trees. Hazelnuts mostly harvested. Some nuts still hanging up in the trees. Tomatoes and soft crops frozen this past week with three nights below 29 degrees.

LINN: Trace of snow in Willamette Valley and up to an inch in foothills.

MARION: Planting of perennial ryegrass seed fields is winding down. Most new seedings of clover seed and winter wheat fields are nearly finished. Fertilizers and herbicide applications being made as weather permits. Weather is still dry for this part of Oregon.

YAMHILL: Hazelnut harvest is nearly finished. Late season apples are being harvested.

EASTERN OREGON

HARNEY: Some scattered snow showers. Cold and dry. Some fall planting going on. Calves being shipped. Some feeding of cows started. Winter has arrived with a dusting of snow and single digit below zero temperatures.

MALHEUR: Received the first hard freeze on November 1. Temperatures in the mid-teens. Sugarbeets and field corn still remain to be harvested. Ontario reported 0.02" of rain on October 29. Otherwise it is still very dry. We finally got some sprinkles last week. Field work is beginning to wind down. Winter wheat has been "dusted-in". Many of the livestock operations have begun winter feeding operations as fall pasture is virtually non-existent.

SHERMAN: Horrible winds this week created blowing dust hazards, sloughing in furrows (already too dry) and limiting visibility. First light dusting of snow on October 31 in elevations above 1900 feet. Heavy ice and frost on windshields. Wheat planting still has a long ways to go and a surprising amount of acres are still awaiting some activity. Elk season coming soon, which may push some to dust seed in or wait until spring. Early seeded acres have emerged but are showing some patchiness from the impact of drought. Maybe 500 acres have been re-seeded in fields with erratic stands. After starting the fall seeding with high expectations, the mood has shifted to one tainted with more pessimism. Could use a good price rally and a couple inches of gentle rain to perk things up.

UNION: Most winter wheat has been planted. Some last minute harvesting of wild hay still occurring. Change in weather this week might have forced some farmers to delay some final fall plantings, such as new mint starts, until the temperature rises somewhat. Most cattle are in winter fields and pastures now, although feeding of hay does not appear to have started yet. Record warm temperatures gave way to record cold temperatures as Union County was affected by the same weather phenomena that hit the rest of Oregon this week. Temperatures had dropped to single digits in some areas by week's end. The first "hard freeze" has effectively ended all back yard vegetable gardening for this year. Some light snowfall has occurred in the last 24 hours, but no significant accumulation has materialized. We seem to be locked, at least temporarily, in a very cold, but dry, weather system.

WALLOWA: Temperatures were very cold toward the end of the week. However, there was still very little moisture to help the fall planted crops and range.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 2, 2003 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	26	66	46	-5	12	1	0.85	-0.97	3	8.40	-0.79	91	31
Crescent City	37	73	52	-3	27	-2	0.28	-1.52	1	1.45	-5.71	20	21
Florence	26	76	48	-5	18	-2	0.81	-1.19	3	6.51	-2.50	72	25
North Bend	32	70	49	-4	18	-6	0.76	-0.93	3	3.69	-3.23	53	22
Tillamook	21	66	46	-4	12	0	0.94	-1.37	4	11.84	0.25	102	31
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Corvallis	19	73	47	-3	20	10	0.34	-0.77	3	2.77	-2.20	56	17
Eugene	20	73	45	-6	16	2	0.89	-0.44	3	3.47	-2.03	63	18
Hillsboro	24	72	46	-3	22	15	0.39	-0.57	3	4.06	-0.57	88	21
McMinnville	23	72	46	-5	19	7	0.42	-0.68	3	3.24	-1.95	62	25
Portland	26	72	48	-3	23	8	0.20	-0.68	1	3.86	-0.83	82	20
Salem	22	74	47	-3	22	14	0.63	-0.41	3	3.56	-1.30	73	20
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	25	81	50	-2	31	10	0.00	-0.89	0	1.03	-2.57	29	6
Medford	22	81	49	-2	26	10	0.08	-0.45	2	0.98	-1.53	39	5
Roseburg	24	79	49	-3	24	4	0.50	-0.41	3	1.77	-2.02	47	11
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	10	75	39	-5	21	21	0.02	-0.31	1	1.10	-0.73	60	8
Heppner	15	76	44	-4	24	17	0.51	0.20	2	1.47	-0.47	76	11
Hermiston	8	79	43	-5	17	10	0.00	-0.21	0	0.93	-0.17	85	6
John Day	11	74	40	-6	23	16	0.05	-0.23	2	1.38	-0.47	75	11
Moro	11	73	40	-5	19	18	0.09	-0.17	2	0.90	-0.47	66	12
Pendleton	15	79	43	-5	28	20	0.01	-0.27	1	1.02	-0.51	67	8
The Dalles	18	78	45	1	29	22	0.19	-0.09	2	0.95	-0.49	66	14
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Bend	5	79	38	-6	16	15	0.18	-0.06	1	0.94	-0.26	78	8
Burns	0	79	36	-4	7	7	0.09	-0.14	3	0.77	-0.59	57	11
Klamath Falls	11	76	40	-4	8	5	0.07	-0.28	1	0.69	-1.02	40	4
Lakeview	10	72	38	-5	1	1	0.08	-0.30	1	0.71	-1.24	36	3
Redmond	1	81	37	-7	16	13	0.08	-0.13	2	0.86	-0.15	85	10
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	1	75	38	-4	10	10	0.02	-0.15	1	0.50	-0.93	35	8
Joseph	10	69	38	0	10	10	0.12	-0.42	2	1.29	-2.09	38	16
La Grande	7	77	42	-3	19	12	0.05	-0.34	1	0.60	-1.77	25	10
Union	7	76	41	-3	15	10	0.14	-0.14	3	1.65	-0.47	78	17
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	9	73	40	-6	14	9	0.04	-0.17	1	0.18	-1.02	15	4
Rome	9	82	41	-4	24	22	0.15	0.01	1	0.53	-0.65	45	4

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Monday, September 1, 2003.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Oregon Crop Weather 31-03
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